



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **8 September 2024**

Australian Feminists for Women's Rights (AF4WR) support Jasmine Sussex as she defends herself against a complaint of vilification for speaking the truth about breastfeeding.

This is yet another test case regarding the conflict between Australian women's sex-based rights and the movement for trans-identifying males to override them.

Within as many months, the Australian court system has seen three cases in which women are defending our sex-based rights as they collide with the introduction of gender identity ideology in law. In all three cases the common denominator is the use of Human Rights Commissions at state or federal levels to promote findings against the women's cases.

On 23 August in Sydney, in the Tickle vs Giggle case, Justice Bromwich of the Federal Court deemed sex to be "changeable" under Australian law and found Sall Grover guilty of discrimination for refusing to accept a male into the female-only Giggle App. The Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) gave evidence in the case in support of transgender complainant Roxanne Tickle, arguing that Tickle should be treated as a woman in law.

On 2 and 3 September in Melbourne, the Administrative Appeals Tribunal heard the Lesbian Action Group's appeal against the AHRC's refusal of an exemption under the Sex Discrimination Act (as amended 2013) to exclude trans-identified males from their lesbian (female only) events. The decision is pending.

Now, long-time breastfeeding expert Jasmine Sussex will head to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal to defend herself against a vilification complaint brought to the Queensland Human Rights Commission. Ms Sussex made online comments in response to media reports about a male with a woman gender identity and his self-described attempt to "breastfeed" the child he had fathered, by chemically inducing lactation. Such chemical lactation not only lacks nutritional value for infants but the chemicals used can actually be dangerous to them.

"It would be fair to assume that women and children in Australia could rely on protections from our state and federal Human Rights Commissions, but in these cases the Commissions are lining up to penalise women for standing up women only-spaces and rights—and in Ms Sussex's case, for speaking the truth about breastfeeding and infant health", said AF4WR co-convenor, Emeritus Professor Bronwyn Winter.

"We are confident that the majority of public sentiment on the issues being tested sits squarely with the women defending these cases, rather than with the ideologically-driven positions of our supposedly impartial human rights commissions."

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